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LATIN EXPORT BANK EXPECTED TO OPEN IN LATE 1978

PA241603Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 24 Apr 78 pp 1A, 10B PA

[Excerpt] An official of the Planning and Economic Policy Ministry said here yesterday that the Latin American Export Bank (BLADEX), headquartered in Panama, is already a financial reality. Its stockholders have already paid $18.7 million for their shares and its first general stockholders' meeting has been held successfully in Santo Domingo.

BLADEX is important to Panama because it invigorates the operations of the financial center, rendering great service to Latin America. This strengthens the financial market in Panama through complementary investments that provide a considerable number of employment opportunities.

Capital contributions being processed but not yet received in Panama will raise the paid-in capital to $23 million. BLADEX, which is now in its final stages of organization, is expected to open its doors in October.

Born in the need to provide additional resources to finance Latin American exports, BLADEX has undergone structural changes through its exposure to the experience of the International Finance Corporation and the Inter-American Development Bank, as well as by the adoption of suggestions from Latin American central banks and international banks located in Panama.

Since it was created through the auspices of Central American banks, BLADEX may be regarded as an organ of regional economic integration.

IDB PRESIDENT: CARTER'S RIGHTS POLICY NOT DISCUSSED

FL172354Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2111 GMT 17 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Apr (ANSA-INFORMEX)--The Mexico City morning paper UNO MAS UNO this morning quotes the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) president, Mexican Antonio Ortiz Mena, as saying that the human rights policy proclaimed by North American President Jimmy Carter has never been discussed at IDB Executive Committee meetings.

According to the daily, Mena stated that if some countries have voted against granting credits to certain countries, "no vote was the result of the topic of human rights."

UNO MAS UNO concludes by writing that for his part Canadian Finance Minister Jean Chrein stated that aid to nations should not and cannot be boycotted because of their political regimes. This was in answer to a question as to why Canada, which belongs to and participates in the IDB, gives credits to the Pinochet regime in Chile.

PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION HOLDS ASSEMBLY

FL252124Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2110 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Apr (ANSA-INFORMEX)--The need to expand cooperation among Latin American countries through agreements on technology and the creation of a fund for financing oil exploitation was expressed here yesterday by Carlos Vanrell Pastor, secretary general of Latin American Petroleum Industry Mutual Aid Association, ARPEL, whose 12th general assembly has opened in this capital.

The assembly, which will last until 28 April, is being attended by representatives of most of the Latin American countries which have state enterprises for control of their hydrocarbons.

Vanrell Pastor also called for the formation of a common front of state producers in the face of the advances made by transnational companies "which have financial and technological control over hydrocarbons worldwide."

In the course of the inaugural session, Mexican Petroluem (PEMEX) Director General Jorge Diaz Serrano also spoke, reading the inaugural declaration of the assembly. Diaz Serrano explained that the energy policy currently followed by the Lopez-Portillo government in no way compromises Mexico's future since it is based on satisfaction of the domestic demand, on the rational use of hydrocarbons and on exports for the adquisition of foreign exchange.

For his part, Mexican Foreign Secretary Santiago Rcel noted the importance of attaining Latin American integration through mutual economic assistance among countries having the same traditions and culture. "Reciprocal declarations of affection between Latin American countries are not enough," Roel explained, "since the ideal of Bolivar must become a reality through the mutual exchange of ideas."

The foreign secretary also asserted that Mexico already is a very important country in terms of hydrocarbons. "Between proved crude and natural and liquid gas and proved reserves, we have 16 billion barrels" and reserves of 31 billion more, and "it is believed that there is a potential of 120 billion barrels," the Mexican foreign secretary concluded. [sentence as received]

VIDELA ADDRESSES GENERALS ON POLITICAL PROCESS

PY2514417 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Text of communique issued by army command on 24 April]

[Text] A meeting was held today, 24 April, beginning at 1700 at the Libertador Building, headquarters of the army command, with participation of all active commanding generals and service corps generals. The meeting was presided over by Commander in Chief of the Army Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, who was the only speaker concerning subjects related specifically to the army and the new phase of the national reorganization plan. The meeting ended at 1900.

FOREIGN MINISTER MONTES LEAVES FOR VISIT TO URUGUAY

PY2513147 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1232 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Apr--Foreign Minister Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes left today at 0900 for Montevideo from the military area of Jorge Newberry metropolitan airport. In Montevideo he will attend the inauguration of the headquarters of the Maritime Seaboard Mixed Technical Commission [Comision Tecnica Mixta del Frente Maritimo].

The Argentine foreign minister is accompanied by Rear Adm Carlos Noe Guevara, maritime interests secretary; Navy Capt Humberto Ghersa (ret), fishing under secretary; Ambassadors Jose Maria Alvarez de Toledo, Raul Medina Munoz and Julio Barboza; and Gustavo Margarino, Uruguayan ambassador to Argentina.

Montes Statement

PY2517557 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1340 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Apr--Foreign Minister Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes indicated today that Argentine-Chilean mixed commission No 2, which is charged with seeking definite solutions to the disagreement regarding the southern region border, will begin to function toward the end of May.

The foreign minister made a statement this morning at the military sector of the metropolitan airport just before traveling to Montevideo, where he will inaugurate, together with his Uruguayan collegaue, Alejandro Rovira, the headquarters of the Maritime Seaboard Mixed Technical Commission.

Montes then explained that "for mixed commission No 2 to begin functioning, only the exchange of the documents brought up to date by mixed commission No 1 remains to be done."

The minister added: "I believe this will occur at the end of April and then 30 days are needed for mixed commission No 2 to begin operation. Therefore, I believe it will be functioning toward the end of May."

Referring to other matters, Montes announced that his next trip abroad will be on 6 May, when he visits Costa Rica to attend a ceremony 2 days later when the new government of that nation will be installed.

Answering a question, Montes confirmed that Peruvian President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez had postponed his visit to Argentina until the second half of 1978 and that Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla does not plan any trips abroad.

Finally, Montes indicated that he will take advantage of his trip to Montevideo to discuss bilateral matters and affairs regarding the next OAS meeting.

Montes Returns

PY252343Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2255 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 25 Apr--Foreign Minister Oscar Antonio Montes had returned to our country after a 7-hour visit to Montevideo, where he inaugurated the headquarters of the Maritime Seaboard Mixed Technical Commission this afternoon.

STATE SEEKS 6-YEAR SENTENCE FOR MRS PERON

PY251456Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1837 GMT 24 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Apr--Sadi Conrado Massue, attorney general of the national attorney's office for administrative investigations, has asked for a 6-year prison sentence for former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron in her trial for irregularities with the funds of the Justicialist Solidarity Crusade.

Sadi Massue believes that the former president violated Article No 173, Clause No (?74) of the penal code, which punishes those who "by order of a law, authority or an act of law, have in their charge the handling, management, or care of goods or monetary interests belonging to other people, and who with the object of obtaining illegal profit for themselves or for others, or to cause damage, violate their duties, harm the interests entrusted to them, or make abusive use of power to force a trustee of said interests to do their will."

In calling for the sentence the attorney considered the personality of the offender, who "was a person who held one of the leading public offices and as such should at all times have observed impeccable and exemplary conduct and offered a dignified image to the Argentine people."

Sadi Massue submitted the request to the court of Norberto A. Giletta, where the proceedings are being carried out.

CEREMONY HELD IN ROSARIO AT DELIVERY OF BOLIVIAN SHIP

PY242158Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1550 GMT 24 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpts] Rosario, 24 Apr--The Argentine and Bolivian navy commanders, Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera and Vice Adm Gutemberg Barroso Hurtado, attended a ceremony at noon today during which Venezuelan officials delivered the ship Libertador Simon Bolivar to the Bolivian Navy.

President Banzer Sends Message

PY251703Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 25 Apr 78 p 9 PY

[Excerpt] Rosario--Bolivian President General Hugo Banzer Suarez said yesterday his country would never renounce its rights to an opening on the Pacific coast. In a message sent to the crew of the first freighter of the Bolivian merchant navy, the "Libertador Simor Bolivar," which was donated by Venezuela and delivered in Rosario yesterday, Banzer said that landlocked nations "have their freedom diminished and development restricted."

PRESS REACTS TO JUNTA'S CLOSING OF PAPERS

HERALD: Junta Overreacted

PY260009Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 25 Apr 78 p 8 PY

[Editorial: "Honesty Is the Best Policy"]

[Text] A thousand years or so ago a messenger bearing bad tidings ran the risk of being executed for displeasing the king. A government which closes down a newspaper for printing information that annoys it is acting in an equally primitive fashion. In civilised countries couriers are no longer beheaded and newspapers are not closed down, whatever they report. This is progress and, as with every other advance in human society, there are good reasons for it. Tyrant kings eventually discovered that a policy of angry response was completely self-defeating. The messengers soon learned to dissimulate and told kings what kings wanted to hear. The result was that the messengers survived. Kings who based their war strategies on false good news did not. This reversed the situation and the honest messengers were back in business in a very short time.

Newspapers make mistakes and can laso be used for propaganda purposes, but as long as they have certain guarantees (which are taken for granted in all free countries in the world) they remain reasonably honest. If you make a habit of closing down newspapers, however, they rapidly stop reporting the news. Some governments have been foolish enough to imagine that no news can be good news and have realized too late that without information no government in the world can operate effectively. And to ensure that you have good information you need honest newspapers.

It is in this context that the three-day closure applied to LA OPINION and CRONICA for reporting that the army was planning to proclaim President Videla as the "fourth man" must be viewed. It was a news item which set the alarm bells ringing because it undermines the principle on which the government rests, which is shared power by the three armed forces through their three commanders on the Junta. The government could have taken a number of steps to silence the alarm bells which would have been in the best interests of the government and the country. A communique could have been issued immediately on Friday morning stating the true situation in regard to the selection of the "fourth man." That would have stopped CRONICA repeating false information. The closures will merely have the effect of inflating rumours about the state of unity in the armed forces. Honesty is always the best policy. The people have the right to know what is going on. And it is up to the government and the armed forces to provide that information. If any organ of the press distorts the truth or appears to be trying to influence events rather than report them, the government should clear up the matter by issuing a communique. This could restore public confidence. The closures of two newspapers for three days merely sets people wondering precisely what is going on.

Press Associations Criticize Closings

PY261223Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Text of undated telegram sent by Argentine Newspaper Owners Association and Association of Argentine Rural Newspapers to Interior Minister Albano Harguindeguy]

[Text] The Argentine Newspaper Owners Association (ADEPA) and the Association of Argentine Rural Newspapers (ADIRA) [Asociacion de Diarios del Interior de la Republica Argentina] wish to convey to Your Excellency the opinion that the closing of the federal capital daily CRONICA is detrimental to the freedom of the press and to point out--in view of the preamble of the closing decree--that freedom of the press is a right which none of the state branches can either control or restrict, in line with the terms of the constitution.

We prefer to avoid discussing the specific situation of the newspaper LA OPINION whose continuing intervention was criticized at the appropriate time.

LA NACION CALLS FOR ADHERENCE TO LEGAL SYSTEM

PY211915Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 20 Apr 78 p 8 PY

[Editorial: "In Defense of Legality"]

[Text] Some reports on a recent luncheon of the Argentine bishops with the president indicated that General Videla rejected the idea that there are political prisoners in Argentina. This opinion is probably right in a general sense. Indeed, not a few of those detained for "uncommon crimes" are imprisoned because of some type of commitment to subversive organizations which have resorted to the most despicable means ever known in their plan to obtain power. And national opinion is not willing to consider as so-called political prisoners those directly or indirectly involved in horrible crimes.

Anyway, the status of each particular detainee must be thoroughly reviewed because there were cases of individuals being held a long time in prison without being charged, as proven by their sudden releases. Indeed these are the individuals who have particularly caused the church concern.

There are other kinds of detainees at the disposal of the executive branch, however. The reasons are countless, but they all reflect a very touchy point in the state's activities. It is indeed unacceptable that after 2 years in government the administration has at its disposal, for various reasons, a number of detainees who are awaiting--as one official so unfortunately put it--for laws to be issued providing punishment for their activities. It is clear that most of these cases involve detention for economic issues.

More than 2 centuries ago Western civilization established a principle elicited by liberal thinking, which cannot be ignored without seriously indicating arbitrariness on the part of the leaders who happen to be in power: the principle that there is no crime or punishment unless there is a prior law.

The military, which covers both executive and legislative functions, has the right--and even the duty--to fill the entire legal vacuum to prevent any corruption in the economic field or any other field, corruption which had been practiced under the permissiveness of a general political decline.

What is unbelievable is that at this stage--2 years after March 1976--this legal vacuum still persists and, therefore, the government feels authorized to resort to the exceptional measure of a state of siege to achieve what it cannot achieve through much more legal means.

We therefore need to be told why there have been delays in updating the legal machinery which evidently has needed--in light of the effort the government is now making to plug certain leaks in this vacuum with the excuse that the stage of siege is in force. We do not want to assume that the government is also taking this attitude on the grounds of a detrimental "revolutionary right," since this would only mean a contradiction in the expressed desire to seek a strengthening of the democratic system in Argentina. Let us rather leave the so-called "revolutionary rights" for totalitarian states--Cuba, among others--and let us jealously guard legality.

We rely on the independence of the judicial branch. The government must rely on it too, particularly considering that the government has directly intervened in an essential part of the structure of our legal system. And if procedural and substantive laws are not in agreement with the present times, this cannot be blamed on lack of reasonable time to update and enforce the rules which are most appropriate for the orderly, peaceful and free progress of our society.

BOMB DAMAGES HOUSE, NEIGHBORHOOD OF PARTY LEADER ALENDE

PY221707Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1537 GMT 22 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Apr--This morning a bomb exploded in front of the home of Oscar Alende, president of the Intransigent Radical Civic Union. It caused much damage but no injuries. The attack took place at about 0230, and the bomb blew the entrance gate of the house a couple of meters toward the inside, blew open two other doors inside the house and broke the windows of several houses in the neighborhood.

When the explosion occurred a 68-year-old doctor with his wife and a grandson were in Alende's home. None of the three was injured.

BRIEFS

LOAN FOR YPF--Buenos Aires, 14 Apr--The government has approved a loan agreement to be signed by Government Oil Deposits [YPF] and a consortium of banks. The loan amounts to $250 million and the banks include the Bank of Montreal, the Bank of Nova Scotia International Limited, Chemical Bank, Manufacturers Hanover Limited, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, United California Bank, Wells Fargo Bank National Association and Westdeutsche Girozentrale. The loan is guaranteed by Argentina. Some $100 million will be used for the exploration and exploitation of wells in 1977 and 1978, and $150 million will be repaid in 7 years. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2155 GMT 14 Apr 78 PY]

TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICIAL--Buenos Aires, 14 Apr--An executive branch decree today designates Tomas Norberto Lucio de Estrada National Director for Trade Promotion of the International Trade and Economic Negotiations Secretariat. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1415 GMT 14 Apr 78 PY]

GUTIERREZ RECEIVES SUPPORT OF COCHABAMBA FSB

PY260057Y La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Apr 78 p 2 PY

[Excerpts] The head of the Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB], Mario Gutierrez, received the support of his party's Cochabamba membership for his purging of the party and for his political conduct.

Gutierrez proposed three alternatives for his party in the present political circumstances: for the FSB to have its own candidate, to have an alliance with compatible nationalistic forces or to have a general pact involving all political parties to form a transitional democratic government.

Gutierrez mentioned as domestic issues of the current situation being experienced by the country the serious economic and financial conditions and the $3.5 billion foreign indebtedness, and as an international issue the passing of the 100th anniversary of the Chilean occupation of Bolivia's seacoast.

He said that his own party's ticket is made up of Mario Gutierrez and Ponce Caballero as president and vice president. However, Gutierrez said, "we want to enter into an alliance with compatible nationalistic groups, and, if that alliance cannot be put together, we would like to have a general pact with all the political parties in the country which would be a demonstration of the democratic faith and desire for unity of all Bolivians." He then said that the general pact would lead to a transition government for the purpose of saving democracy in the country, of tackling the problem posed by the need of a sea outlet constitutionally, and of easing as much as possible the negative effects of the present monetary and financial crisis.

Another leader, Carlos Valverde Barbery, leveled harsh criticism at the official candidate, Gen Juan Pereda Asbun, saying that "the FSB can never support a man who is corrupting and dividing the nation and the parties and is buying supporters with the state's money." Gutierrez, in turn, said "we will never forgive him for having tried to buy out our party," adding that "Pereda will never conduct a noteworthy government."

LABOR LEADER LECHIN OQUENDO REFUSES TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT

PY251433Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1704 GMT 24 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpts] La Paz, 24 Apr--It was reported here today that the highest ranking leader of Bolivian workers, Juan Lechin Oquendo, has refused to become a presidential candidate because "he prefers labor power to a period as president."

Lechin's candidacy was proposed during a leftist congress which was held over the weekend in La Paz, but the old leader declined the offer, emphasizing that his political responsibility demands he continue to head the national labor movement.

Lechin's refusal to become a candidate opens greater possibilities for former President Hernan Siles Zuazo, who currently has the support of four leftist parties: the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, the Bolivian Communist Party, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left and the Bolivian Socialist Party.

Claims Surveillance

PY251500Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Juan Lechin Oquendo, former vice president and now highest labor union leader, is watched and followed by persons and cars, presumably hired by state secret services. This charge was made last night by Lechin himself, who invited newsmen to verify these facts. Last night a yellow Datsun with taxi registration plate No 3281 constantly followed the movements of the union leader.

LEFTIST PARTIES CRITICIZE SILES ZUAZO'S FUDP

PY211920Y La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Apr 78 p 4 PY

[Paid advertisement: "Leftist Parties Denounce Divisive Character of So-Called 'Democratic and Popular Front'"]

[Text] In view of the announcement of the creation of the so called "Democratic and Popular Front" [founded as Democratic and Popular Unity Front--FUDP], the leftist parties declare:

1. Our parties tried to unite the forces of the left in a broad front which would even include the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left. We sought the unity of all forces which, in one way or another, actively or passively, have opposed the dictatorship which was imposed by the military coup of August 1971. As a consequence of these efforts, a joint declaration was produced which was signed by seven parties, referring to the need of struggling for effective democratic and labor freedom. We also held several bilateral and multilateral meetings to achieve the objective of uniting all of the Bolivian left.

2. Nevertheless, after the arrival of Hernan Siles Zuazo, negotiations for the creation of a broad leftist front were hindered by his persistent discrimination against some parties of the left and, at the same time, his urge to seek the incorporation of forces of the right which are committed to the August 1971 coup and the political regime which emerged from it. Thus, his work of unity with the right and discrimination against the left, with the clear objective of stopping the unity of the popular and democratic forces, led to the creation of the so-called "FUDP." That front leaves the door open for "a political-electoral understanding through agreements or pacts with those forces which are part of the process of the 'Bolivian revolution,'" which governed with the current dictatorship during the stage when the greatest repressive violence was carried out against the population, although they were kicked out later. Their current "opposition" is therefore more the fruit of bitterness than of a political position of defending democratic rights. These parties are the National Revolutionary Movement and the Authentic Revolutionary Party. This action therefore marks a breakaway from the parties of the left which, in principle, have declared that there will never be any pacts with those who participated in the August 1971 coup and are therefore guilty of serious and irreparable harm to the Bolivian people.

3. The parties of the left which have signed this declaration make Hernan Siles Zuazo responsible for this situation because, while declaring that he had returned to the country to unite the left, in practice he worked to divide it and unite the right.

At the same time, we denounce the maneuver of using the name "FUDP" to conceal the regrouping of that union which surrendered the April 9 process to imperialism and the reconciliation of those who carried out the fascist coup of August 1971.

4. While we condemn the divisive maneuvers of Hernan Siles Zuazo and the inconsistency of the parties--which claim to be leftist--making up the so-called "FUDP," we also accuse the FUDP, because in the end it is serving the enemies of the people.

The parties of the left which have signed this declaration urge all the parties of the left, popular organizations and revolutionary leaders to continue the struggle for unity of the popular forces and to unmask the divisionist and at the same time steadfastly combat the antipopular policy of the dictatorship.

We must unite the really antifascist and anti-imperialist forces in order to offer the people a historic and revolutionary alternative to the dictatorship, those who support divisive maneuvers and those who intend, in this way, to absolve the coauthors of the fascist 1971 coup of their blame and responsibility.

[dated] April 1978

[signed] Mario Carrasco Marin, for the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left; Oscar Zamora Medinaceli, for the Bolivian Communist Marxist-Leninist Party; and Victor Sossa Coronel, for the Revolutionary Workers Party-Communist Vanguard

BRIEFS

OIL EXPLORATION--The Canadian enterprise Western de Calta, which has obtained an important concession for oil exploration in Tarija, has begun operations in the area called Castellon and Rio Salado in the province of O'Connor. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Apr 78 p 2 PY]

VETERANS SUPPORT SILES ZUAZO--In a communique signed by (Francisco Portugal), (Pablo Arce), (Juvenal Quiroga), and (Lino Salazar), the Independent Sector of Chaco War Veterans stated its support for the presidential candidacy of Hernan Siles Zuazo because of his indisputable record of struggle in defense of neglected sectors. The communique also urged all Chaco war veterans to support Siles Zuazo. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 19 Apr 78 PY]

YPFB WILL INAUGURATE REFINERIES--According to officials of Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB], the refineries of Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, whose capacities will be 25,000 and 20,000 barrels of oil per day, respectively, will be inaugurated before August. In addition to this the officials stated that a lubricating oil plant is being built in Cochabamba and a plant for bottling liquified gas is being built in Santa Cruz. The sources stated that investment in the two above-mentioned refineries amounts to $145 million. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 20 Apr 78 PY]

UAE SEEKS 10-PERCENT OWNERSHIP IN STEEL COMPANY

PY251905Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1650 GMT 22 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 22 Apr--It was disclosed here today that the United Arab Emirates want to purchase 10 percent of the shares of the Brazilian state-owned steel company, the Rio Doce Valley Company. The report was given by the company's president, Joel Mendes Renno, who stated that the purchase offer was made 6 months ago and tentatively approved by Brazilian economic and financial authorities.

Mendes Renno also reported that the country is interested in carrying out this transaction. He said that the United Arab Emirates would be able to buy only preferred shares, which would not allow them to take part in the company's management.

In case the transaction is completed, the 10-percent participation of the United Arab Emirates in the Brazilian firm would mean the purchase of 440,000 preferred shares at a nominal value of two cruzeiros ($0.125).

LABOR MINISTER INVITED TO CONTINUE IN POST

PY251955Y Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Labor Minister Arnaldo Prieto has been invited by President Geisel to remain in his post until the end of Geisel's administration, meaning that Prieto may keep his present position during the next administration.

SUBMARINE-BUILDING PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY NAVY

PY260228Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Apr 78 p 7 PY

[Excerpts] Within 2 years Brazil will begin to build its own submarines at the Rio de Janeiro navy yard, in accordance with the priority programs established in the navy reequipment plan for the 1979-1989 period. This statement was made yesterday by Navy Minister Azevedo Henning at the inaugural class of the submarine training center on the island of Mocangue Grande.

The designs for the new submarine, in view of the technical complexity, will be purchased abroad but the initiative will provide to Brazil the transfer of construction know-how aimed at nationalizing the units and their equipment, also according to the navy minister.

As part of the reequipment plan, the navy yard is now engaged in the construction of the modern frigates Independencia and Uniao, equipped with missiles and radiation-proof chambers, the designs for which were also purchased abroad.

BRIEFS

ANTIAIRCRAFT MISSILE--Paris, 13 Apr--Military sources revealed today that the Brazilian Army has received the first sample of four of the French-German built Roland system antiaircraft missile. Brazil ordered four Roland systems in 1972 from the European Euromissile enterprise. The sources revealed that the four Roland systems are partly assembled in Brazil. Each system carries 10 missiles. The cost of these four systems is just above $17 million. It is not known if the Brazilian Army is interested in ordering enough Roland systems for mass-production to become feasible. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1714 GMT 13 Apr 78 PY]

PINOCHET, OTHERS ADDRESS LABOR CONFERENCE

PY252037Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpts] Mario Rios, government secretariat under secretary, opened the national seminar on labor policy today, during which he appealed for calm discussion of the government's national labor policy.

The conference, which is attended by more than 300 union leaders from all Chilean regions, is part of an extensive program to commemorate national labor day.

Discussing social participation through the intermediate organizations, as part of the institutionalization process, Mario Rios reviewed the necessary measures which the government had to enforce but which, like its economic measures, were not always welcomed. He added, however, that time has proven the complete effectiveness of these measures. In this regard he noted the 7.2-percent industrial output increase in March--$710 million in exports, construction and agricultural (?products).

He also noted the vast social plan aimed at alleviating the situation of impoverished sectors, which were allotted 70 percent of the budget. He added that the government is aware of the unemployment problem and that it is now studying an emergency plan to combat it.

President Augusto Pinochet reiterated today that the old concept of unions and class struggle is being eradicated and that it is being replaced by harmony between capital and labor.

The president made this statement during his visit to two factories and a meeting with union leaders which he held this morning as part of the activities commemorating national labor day which will end on 1 May.

Sergio Vergara, president of the Andean Bottling Company, welcomed the president by noting that during the military government the salaries of the company's workers have increased by 230 percent. He added that during the Popular Unity government, the enterprise contracted $14 million in debts for its operation and that it did not make any investments. He noted, however, that during the present government the company paid this debt and that in addition it has enough investment capital to invest over $10 million.

Pinochet and other officials toured the bottling plant and later met workers at the assembly hall. During this meeting the president was welcomed by local union leader Sergio Gonzalez, who noted the president's constant interest in improving the standard of living of [words indistinct]. He cited as examples the establishment of housing developments, the many laws to help children and other measures. Furthermore, he noted that all the workers support the government and he added: Those who think that Chile is a divided country are wrong because Chile is, has been and will always be united.

Pinochet told workers that the old concepts of unionism have disappeared and today unionism is a coordination tool between the enterprise and workers. He added that when there is genuine harmony, profits benefit both the enterprise and the national economy. General Pinochet warned, however, that there are still many persons, particularly businessmen, who block this harmony, but he added: This is our goal.

Valparaiso union representative (Francisco Diprat) spoke on behalf of workers. He said that despite workers' disagreement with government policies, the most significant fact was the permanent dialog which the government is holding with workers, enabling the elimination of differences and the achievement of agreements.

In addition to reiterating his ideas about the new unionism, the president noted that because of their experience old union leaders deserve respect and that young leaders should not try to displace them.

GOVERNMENT HALTS CHURCH LABOR CONFERENCE

PY251850Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0240 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, 24 Apr--Chilean Cardinal Raul Silva Rodriguez said here tonight that the church has suspended the conference of Saint Joseph the Worker at the request of the military government.

The conference was to be held here this week as part of International Labor Day ceremonies.

Although Cardinal Rodriguez said nothing about the reason for the government request, clergy circles learned that the government indicated that the agenda of the conference was contrary to the spirit of national reconciliation now existing in the country.

A priest of the workers' mission of the Santiago episcopate, Alfonso Baeza, said: "I do not share that viewpoint at all."

Father Baeza said that in his opinion the subjects on the agenda "were in line with the church's social doctrine."

It was announced that special masses will be said in churches throughout the country to commemorate International Labor Day on 1 May.

PENALTY FOR ILLEGAL GUN POSSESSION EASED

PY251744Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Santiago--The gazette publishes a note today which states that the Defense Ministry has changed Law No 17,798, regarding gun control, adding a new article which establishes that those who are arrested and have possession of guns, but who are able to prove that they were not going to use their guns to attack police, disturb public order or perpetrate other crimes, will only be fined and charged with a monthly tax required by the metropolitan regional office. This applies to those persons who have not declared the possession of guns at the proper time.

EL MERCURIO CRITICIZES MONTES VISIT TO BOLIVIA

PY251523Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile--The newspaper EL MERCURIO says in an editorial that the position taken by Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Montes during his recent visit to Bolivia contradicts the agreements of 20 February between Presidents Augusto Pinochet and Jorge Rafael Videla. The paper adds that he converted the visit into a political action to gain support for the position of his government in the dispute with Chile.

POLICE CONFISCATE ARMS, AMMUNITION DESTINED FOR REBELS

PA191919Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Police intelligence services and the Administrative Department of Security [DAS] today thwarted operations presumably designed to resupply arms and ammunition to seditious groups operating in the southern part of the country.

In a downtown Bogota street, DAS troops confiscated a shipment of ammunition which was being transported in a public service vehicle. During the operation, two men were arrested and turned over to the military institutes brigade.

The ammunition, bullets for M-1 and G-3 [German] rifles, was purchased clandestinely in the capital of the republic.

For its part, the F-2 confiscated an arms cache in Sesquile District consisting of 14 revolvers, several rifles, carbines, pistols and a large quantity of ammunition. Two persons were arrested.

SOLDIER, FARC GUERRILLA KILLED IN CLASH

PA250254Y Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Villavicencio--Troops of the 7th Brigade began a sweep operation during the past few hours in pursuit of a group belonging to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] which carried out a surprise attack on a military patrol [words indistinct]. Airborne troops are cooperating with the men who clashed with the guerrillas, the 7th Brigade commander in Villavicencio reported. The official source added that an army corporal and an unidentified guerrilla died in the clash.

TERRORIST ACTIVITIES SPREAD TO ATLANTICO, VALLE

PA222111Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The escalation in terrorism which rocked the capital this week, where several small bomb explosions caused heavy damage, extended to Atlantico and Valle over the past few hours.

In Barranquilla, a medium-sized bomb exploded early this morning at the home of the chief of the auditing sector of the maritime terminal but caused no casualties. The explosion destroyed the doors and windows of the house of Emilio Mendoza Mejia, who along with his family escaped unharmed.

The other attack was carried out in Cartago, Valle, where unidentified elements planted a bomb in Mayor Carlos Alberto Palau's home. The explosion caused only slight damage.

So far no subversive group has claimed credit for either of the two attacks. Capital city authorities are baffled over the resurgence of urban guerrillas. This morning a guerrilla group attacked a health center in northern Bogota and, after painting revolutionary slogans on the walls, stole drugs and medical equipment.

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL GRANTS LEGAL STATUS TO EIGHT PARTIES

PA241628Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Excerpts] The Supreme Electoral Tribunal today will resume the delicate task of examining registration petitions and other documents submitted by the political parties to legalize their status.

So far, 13 political parties, which in 1970 were granted legal status, have submitted petitions for registration. Of these, eight have already been approved, one turned down, and four are still pending further investigation.

The eight political parties whose registration petittion have been accepted and legalized, are: the Ecuadorean Conservative Party, the Liberal Radical Party, the Ecuadorean Socialist Party, the Concentration of Popular Forces, Ecuadorean Nationalist Revolutionary Action, the Democratic Institutionalist Coalition, the Velasquist National Party and the Revolutionary Nationalist Party.

On the other hand, the tribunal turned down the Ecuadorean Independent Republican Party's petition, alleging that its documents were not in order.

The parties whose petitions are still pending further investigation are: the Christian Social Party, the Popular Patriotic Party, the Democratic National Union and the National Guevarist Party.

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL PRESIDENT SUBMITS RESIGNATION

PA251725Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Excerpts] Following a wave of protests and complaints directed against the Supreme Electoral Tribunal's Technical Department, Benjamin Carrion, president of the tribunal, submitted his resignation to the Supreme Council of Government, alleging that he cannot continue presiding over the tribunal because of his health. The Ecuadorean intellectual, who had the general trust of political organizations in the country, submitted his resignation, to which he attached a doctor's certificate.

The 81-year-old Carrion last week expressed his disagrement with views held by other tribunal members who disqualified three political parties which did not meet the qualifications for registration established in the new electoral law. Carrion believes that at this point in the registration process what should prevail is the people's interest over those set down on paper. Carrion said that the existence of more political parties was, to a certain extent, a demonstration of civic enthusiasm on the part of the people.

Political leaders have expressed their regret over Carrion's decision, while indicating that it could lead to unforeseeable situations within the political structure.

Carrion, who was interviewed by one of our reporters, assured him that he was resigning because of his health. It is time we realize that no man is indispensable. I am sure the process will continue without any problem, Carrion assured our reporter, declining further comment.

Election Not Affected

PA260302Y Quito Radio Cadena Nacional Ecuatoriana in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Quito--Government and Justice Minister Col Bolivar Jarrin reiterated today that the plan to establish a constitutional government remains unchanged, in fulfillment of the promise made by the armed forces.

The secretary of state thus dispelled political rumors that the presidential election scheduled for 16 July might be affected by the resignation of Supreme Electoral Tribunal President Benjamin Carrion.

LEFTIST FRONT UNVEILS CAMPAIGN PLATFORM

PA191516Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0052 GMT 19 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 18 Apr (AFP)--The Leftwing Broad Front (FADI), which has nominated its own candidate for the July presidential elections, announced its goal of building a "socialist, democratic Ecuador that is free from any dependency."

The FADI candidate is attorney Rene Mauge, member of the Communist Party of Ecuador and director of the research department of the Guayaquil University Law School.

"We have lived and still continue to live," a FADI manifesto says, "a false democracy which is characterized by the negation of the rights of the people, lack of equality, exploitation, underdevelopment, misery and dependency which are constantly increasing."

FADI unites the Communist Party, the Revolutionary Socialist Party and several minor leftist groups.

"[It is] the role of the Ecuadorean left," the manifesto goes on, "to prepare for the arrival of a new classless society, without man's exploitation of man."

FADI also published its campaign platform calling for, among other things, control over the national economy through the expansion of the state-run economy and the nationalization of transnational enterprises and foreign banks.

DEMOCRATIC LEFT NOMINATES VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PA211416Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1931 GMT 21 Apr 78 PA

[Excerpt] Quito, 19 Apr (AFP)--The Democratic Left today nominated Raul Vaca Carbo, former mayor of Guayaquil, as its vice presidential candidate, it was officially announced.

Vaca Carbo will be the running mate of lawyer Rodrigo Borja, who has already been nominated presidential candidate by this center leftist party.

Vaca was mayor of Guayaquil until 2 days ago, having held the post for 8 months. Previously, he was the provincial prefect of Guayas, Ecuador's most heavily populated province.

HAYA DE LA TORRE URGES GOVERNMENT 'LOYALTY' IN ELECTIONS

PA251741Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2313 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 24 Apr (LATIN)--Political leader Victor Raul Haya de la Torre demanded "loyalty" from the military government in the holding of the 4 June elections and accused the electoral authorities of "hampering" the process to the detriment of his organization.

Haya de la Torre, who yesterday led a demonstration in the neighboring district of Comas, said that the Peruvian Aprista Party (PAP), will participate in the constituent assembly elections and "we shall win."

He urged the government to abide by the principle of loyalty, "because otherwise it will have to turn the reins of government over to the people."

"If they (the military) want loyalty and honesty, then they should set the example," he said.

The 83-year-old politician, who heads the list of his party's candidates, asserted that the government and the national electoral court are "maneuvering politically" to "diminish the Popular American Revolutionary Alliance's true voting strength."

He said that the electoral fraud will be carried out mainly "through chicanery at the voting sites."

He disagreed with the general election law and charged that the legislation "has artificial qualifications which tend to delay the vote count and confuse the voters."

Haya de la Torre, who founded the PAP 50 years ago, used harsh terms against the government for the first time since the armed forces emphatically rejected a political "understanding."

SOCIALIST REVOLUTIONARY LEADER MATEO TINCOPA ARRESTED

PA252133Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Apr 78 p 3 PA

[Text] The Socialist Revolutionary Party (PSR) has protested against the "most recent and arbitrary" arrest of Mateo Tincopa, a member of the national leadership of the PSR and defense secretary of the Lima office of the Central Organization of Workers of the Peruvian Revolution.

The PSR yesterday issued a communique noting that Tincopa has been arrested because of his participation in the national unity strike carried out on 19 July of last year.

MINE WORKERS STAGE ILLEGAL 48-HOUR STRIKE

PA251201Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0234 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 24 Apr--The 3,200 workers of the state-owned Hierroperu mining concern began a 48-hour strike today to demand the rehiring of the labor leaders dismissed last July.

Some 1,500 workers of two privately owned mines in the central Andean region joined in the strike.

Hierroperu exploits iron mines in Marcona, 450 km south of Lima.

The strike was decreed by the Federation of Miners and Metal Workers of Peru led by Victor Cuadros, who recently returned from exile.

The labor minister said the strike was illegal because the mining industry is in a state of emergency and therefore work stoppages are banned.

Several labor unions in the southern and central parts of the country, which are also members of the above-mentioned federation, did not heed the order to strike, it was revealed here tonight.

AREQUIPA WORKERS TEMPORARILY SUSPEND STRIKE

PA151926Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0139 GMT 15 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 14 Apr (AFP)--It was reported here that workers in Arequipa Department, who have been on general strike for the past 10 days, have lifted their strike as of today. The suspension will last until the end of the month.

The measure was adopted during a general assembly convoked by the Arequipa Departmental Federation of Workers.

The goals of the strike included the reinstatement of several dismissed workers, revision of a recent labor law, a wage increase and the resignation of the interior minister.

IMPORTANCE OF PRIVATE SECTOR TO RECOVERY CITED

PY251746Y Lima Radio la Cronica in Spanish 1205 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Text] Division Gen Gaston Ibanez O'Brien, Peruvian minister of industries, commerce, tourism and integration, attended the commemoration of the Lima Chamber of Commerce anniversary yesterday. During the commemoration of this anniversary Chamber President (Victor Rawen Bambaren) stated that the economic crisis of the country will be overcome only if private investors recover their confidence and private businesses receive enough encouragement to increase production and create new jobs.

BRIEFS

MINISTERS DECORATED--Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente Radbill decorated Prime Minister Gen Oscar Molina Palochia and Aeronautics Minister Gen Jorge de la Flor Tamayo with the Order of the Peruvian Sun in the grade of Grand Cross for services to the fatherland. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Apr 78 PY]

COST OF LIVING INCREASE--Lima, 15 Apr (AFP)--The National Statistical Institute reported today that the cost of living in this capital increased by 2.49 percent during the past month. The cost of living increase for the first quarter of the year was 15.63 percent, while for the year ending in March it was 42.66 percent. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1521 GMT 15 Apr 78 PA]

ROVIRA, MONTES INAUGURATE MARITIME SEABOARD COMMISSION

PY252005Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Apr 78 PY

[Excerpts] The Uruguayan and Argentine foreign ministers have just inaugurated the offices of the Maritime Seaboard Mixed Technical Commission which, according to Uruguayan Minister Rovira, represents another important step in the fraternal links of River Plate fraternity.

Argentine Minister Montes said: We meet again with the pride and satisfaction of knowing that we have the same ideas and that we are achieving objectives together, Uruguayans and Argentines, as is demanded by our common background.

At the ceremony, Minister Rovira said:

[begin Rovira recording] We are gathered here again today, Argentines and Uruguayans, to begin another stage in the course, which is cearly defined, of permanent achievements adopted by the River Plate countries as a genuine demonstration of their historical and fraternal relations.

After several years we have learned that political frontiers are not barriers. They are the common origin of our close ties. They indicate the origins of our being neighbors. They are a reason for understanding and they are a witness to continuous [words indistinct] in an unceasing search for the welfare of our peoples.

The Uruguay River treaty and the River Plate treaty with its maritime seaboard [commission] are more than just agreements regarding borders, they are the basic instruments for achieving excellent integration [words indistinct] Latin America. [end recording]

The Argentine Minister said: In a short period of time we have improved our bilateral relations, a reality which could never have been achieved when we were pulling in different directions due to the inability to find fundamental solutions to River Plate problems.

[begin Montes recording] Our firm determination to overcome historical and paralyzing consequences and seek a path for an effective understanding and, once this path is found to then be in a position to [words indistinct] of doing what we had not done, of making definite [words indistinct] when they are incapable of seeing beyond a mere historical consequence.

The River Plate treaty with its maritime seaboard [commission] truly represents a very important instrument regarding the delimitation of the respective jurisdictions [words indistinct] of various fundamental problems regarding this river. [end recording]

(Adolfo Polle Martinez), president of the Maritime Seaboard Mixed Technical Commission, also gave a brief report regarding the work carried out by this binational organization.

He said that the principle and current concern of the commission is to study all those matters related to contamination and other harmful elements which may exist on or under the maritime seaboard.

CUBAN JUSTICE MINISTER ARRIVES IN CARACAS

FL242003Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Cuban Justice Minister Armando Torres Santrayll arrived in Caracas today to attend the fourth conference of justice ministers of Hispanic-Luso American countries and the Philippines.

OPINA TO ENDORSE HERRERA CAMPINS' CANDIDACY

PA250422Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] National Opinion [OPINA], the movement led by Deputy Amado (Cornieles), has agreed to endorse Senator Luis Herrera Campins' presidential candidacy. Deputy Amado (Cornieles') political group has participated in the last three elections on a national level and has branches all over the country, we have been told.

Reportedly, a massive popular event [word indistinct] to announce OPINA's decision is being planned. Delegates from all over the country will participate in this event, which will be headed by Deputy Amado (Cornieles). At the event, (Cornieles) will present a report on his party's electoral strategy.

On that occasion OPINA will also decide on the mechanisms of the campaign to be staged in support of Luis Herrera Campins.

OFFICIAL REPORTS REFLECT FALLING OIL PRODUCTION

PA241851Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 17 Ap 78 p 1A PA

[Text] Venezuela's oil production has dropped for the second consecutive time. The drop for the week ending 12 April was in excess of 71,000 barrels a day.

According to official reports, the average oil production for the week ending 12 April was 1,862,210 barrels a day. Compared to the production figure for the same period last year, this represents a drop of 481,000 barrels or 20.54 percent.

During the last week, which ended 12 April [as published], the average daily production was 2,099,642 or, in other words, 71,000 barrels less than the production of the preceding week.

Despite the two consecutive decreases, oil production may be expected to stabilize.

LOPEZ-PORTILLO SPEAKS AT BAJA CALIFORNIA MEETING

PA251205Y Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Excerpt] Mexican President Lopez-Portillo has said in La Paz, Baja California, that Mexico has come to the point at which we may shortly begin the promising phase of financial self-determination, not subject to the whims or disorders of international financing. He said this at the meeting on the self-evaluation of the Alliance for Production.

The Mexican president briefly analyzed our serious problems concerning economic insufficiency in view of the great problems he saw yesterday afternoon in the city of Tijuana. He said that such problems in the country are potentially exploitable. The president said that we are at a peculiar phase of our development, our underdevelopment, he added. He said that we know how much it will cost to do things and how much we will lose in not doing them immediately.

In his speech, the president said that with our Mexicanization, our healthy nationalism and the defense of our sovereignty we are able to confront the attacks of irresponsible and aggressive transnationalism which does not have a metropolis or fatherland and which does not now signify a problem for all organized nations. [sentence as heard]

Mexico will carry out a national fishing development plan. By 1982, (?4.305 million) tons of fish are expected to be caught. This is nine times the current figure. To this end, the cooperation of all sectors is needed so that this activity will become one of the main foundations of the national economy.

PRESIDENT ORDERS RELEASE OF MARIJUANA GROWERS

FL252117Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2105 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Apr (ANSA-INFORMEX)--By order of Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo, the courts will release 1,690 peasants who were marijuana growers, Attorney General Oscar Flores Sanchez reported today.

He said that Lopez-Portillo is "convinced" that these true peasants became involved in this activity due to ignorance because they lacked the economic resources and the farm tools or food-producing seeds for engaging in legal crops.

The text of the bulletin released to the press by the Mexican attorney general's office states in one of its paragraphs that it "is totally convinced that this is a case involving actual peasants who because of precarious economic conditions and their great responsibility for their large families have been the victims of exploitation by national and international traffickers."

The 1,690 peasants included in the resolution will be released in the next few days, the attorney general's office explained.

All of them cultivated marijuana in the area known as Triangulo de Oro whose central area is located in Culiacan, Sinalda State, 1,300 km northwest of this capital.

In this area is located what has come to be called the Mexican connection in the international drug traffic. It is the area where the Mexican Government, with the support of North American agencies, has unleashed a real war on opium.

SPANISH AMBASSADOR COMMENTS ON PEMEX, LOANS

FL172317Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2107 GMT 17 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Apr (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Spanish Ambassador to Mexico Luis Coronel de Palma today said that besides the fact that Spain can serve as the door to Europe for the sale of Mexican petroleum, the possibility exists for refinancing some development projects undertaken by Mexican Petroleum [PEMEX].

At an impromptu press conference shortly before the second international conference on tourism and air transportation began, the diplomat confirmed recent statements by Mexican Ambassador to Spain Jose Gomez Gordoa to the effect that the mother country can be the most suitable vehicle for Mexico to introduce its oil into Europe, channeling it through the Spanish nation to the European Economic Community countries which show an interest in acquiring the product.

On the other hand, Coronel de Palma said that the latest credit of $20 million which several Spanish institutions granted to PEMEX to finance several projects "is a show of confidence in Mexico, given the security demonstrated by the Mexican republic over time."

NUCLEAR ENERGY PLANT TO RECEIVE FIRST UNIT IN NOVEMBER

FL222224Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2220 GMT 22 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Apr (ANSA-INFORMEX)--A spokesman for the Laguna Verde nuclear energy plant in Vera Cruz, 500 km southeast of this capital, stated that the plant will receive its first unit next November during Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo's visit there.

The spokesman also stated that a contract had been made for "the supply and enrichment of uranium, along with the fabrication of the fuel for the cores of two reactors."

"It should be understood that with the exception of compliance with the high concepts of the international treaties signed, this negotiation has not been subjected to any type of political interference."

Total investment at this thermoelectric plant remains around $1 billion, of which one-fifth has already been invested.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH VENEZUELA--In Mexico City, Aquiles [name indistinct], minister-adviser of Venezuelan petroleum, has said that Venezuela and Mexico will join efforts in the production of fertilizer to improve food production. He explained that the two countries work jointly on the fertilizer committee of the Latin American Economic System. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 Apr 78 PA]

SPORTS AGREEMENT WITH GDR--Mexico City--A protocol was signed in Mexico City on Tuesday for further cooperation in the field of physical training and sport between the GDR and Mexico as well as on joint sporting events in 1978. The protocol was signed on behalf of the GDR sports organizers by Guenther Heinze, vice president of the GDR Sports Federation (DTSB), and on behalf of the National Sport Institute of Mexico (INDE) by Guillermo Lopez Portillo, director general of the INDE. An agreement on long-term cooperation between the two sports associations for 1979-80 is to be concluded by the end of this year. [East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1936 GMT 11 Apr 78 LD]

FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ANALYZES CANAL TREATIES

PA252356Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2317 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Concerning the approval of the Torrijos-Carter treaties in the U.S. Senate, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry has issued a 58-page [as heard] communique which analyzes the current situation of the treaties, and upon instructions from President Demetrio Lakas and Chief of Government General Torrijos, explains to the citizenry the legal scope of the Senate resolutions and sets forth Panama's position regarding the Senate's decision.

The document released by the Foreign Ministry begins by explaining the terms, amendments, reservations and understandings. It also states that, while in the United States it is up to the President to ratify it with the advice and consent of the Senate, in Panama it is the Panamanian people who ratify, since according to the constitution they assume responsibility for the decision in the same way as a negotiator.

Concerning the DeConcini reservation and the principle of nonintervention, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry communique contains a historic summation of Latin America's tenets beginning with Article 8 of the Seventh Pan-American Conference held in Uruguay in 1933, which was signed by the U.S. delegation, including the UN Charter of 1945 and the OAS Charter dated 1948 in Bogota and concluding with the OAS Charter which was reformed in 1967.

According to the Foreign Ministry communique, Article 5 of the canal treaty, which sets forth the principle of nonintervention as the U.S. duty to abstain from meddling in Panama's internal affairs, was unnecessary because from the legal point of view and in light of laws such as the various UN and OAS charters, no state, superpower or small nation has the right to intervene in the spheres that pertain exclusively to other states.

Senator DeConcini himself said that what his reservation stipulated should not be interpreted as the right of the United States to intervene in Panama's internal affairs. The communique notes that the Panamanian Foreign Ministry and adds [as heard] that any intervention violates the basic principle of self-determination, and breaks [rompe] every state's respect for the independence, territorial supremacy and honor of other states.

In the concluding portion, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry says that the Torrijos-Carter treaties, along with the Senate resolutions, do not injure national dignity, have not changed or twisted the objectives of the treaty since nothing will prevent Panama from the effective exercise of sovereignty over its entire territory, and major national objectives have been achieved.

The Panamanian Foreign Ministry communique concludes by noting that it can satisfactorily say that the fundamental objectives which are dear to the country's heart have been basically achieved. It adds that all Panamanians would want the deadline to be shorter, but it was only possible to achieve what the treaties contain.

The communique ends by quoting one of Simon Bolivar's letters which says: Let us look for a medium point between these extremes which would lead us to difficulties, unhappiness and dishonor. I am going to risk the results of my reflections on the future of America, not the best but the most likely future. [sentence as heard]

The complete text of the Foreign Ministry communique will be published in the various newspapers tomorrow.

More on Foreign Ministry Communique

PA260155Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2330 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Text] In a 53-page document released this afternoon, the national government, through the Foreign Ministry, establishes its official position on the Panama Canal treaties, their amendments, reservations, clarifications and understandings. The document is an analytical study of each of the amendments and an explanation of their interpretation from the Panamanian viewpoint. The 53-page document ends with a conclusion which we are going to read since for obvious reasons the rest is very long and by its own nature should be read carefully. Here is the final part of the document which is only 2 and 1/2 pages long:

The national government has reached the conclusion that the treaties unquestionably achieve, within a reasonable period of time, the fundamental objectives of the Panamanian nation. Because of this, the national government will consent to the exchange of the instruments of ratification of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. With the entry into force of the treaties, better instruments for struggle will be placed in the hands of the republic. With them, Panama will continue its efforts so that the national objectives will be realized in a shorter period of time by virtue of opportune and patriotic negotiations that the governments of the future will undertake.

The Foreign Ministry has faith in the Panamanian's capacity for struggle. It also has faith that with time U.S. public opinion will better understand Panama's reasons for insisting on an improvement in the terms of its contractual relationship with the United States. This will facilitate the future decisions of the U.S. Government in its relations with Panama. The North American people are a just people. Some of their leaders have shown courage, patriotism and a clear sense of history. The Torrijos-Carter treaties are evident achievements in our liberation struggle, but they are not the final phase, the Foreign Ministry communique adds.

Upon agreeing to the terms of the protocol of the instruments of ratification of each treaty, Panama will reaffirm its right to self-determination, respect for its territorial integrity and political independence and its rejection of all forms of intervention in its internal affairs and will ask the United States to reaffirm its commitments in accordance with the UN and OAS charters.

Let us view the future with optimism because each Panamanian is struggling to hasten the liberation process. The rulers and those who are ruled should utilize to the maximum the favorable opportunities which present themselves to promote the common good. Panama opportunely utilized the process of decolonization and made itself part of it with reciprocal solidarity. We went to the Third World and the nonalined countries and we obtained the necessary support so that the whole world could understand Panama's liberation cause. Thanks to the persistent work of the Foreign Ministry, we concluded the negotiation with the treaties.

No one can deny that the Torrijos-Carter treaties contain great and positive advances for Panama in the political and economic spheres. We have reached levels in our liberation process that place us very near the summit. We are sure that we will climb the summit of perfecting our independence on 31 December 1999 without bringing anguish or mourning to the hearts of Panamanian mothers.

The Panamanians have followed with great interest the debates in the U.S. Senate. The Spanish version of the debates reached our homes by radio. All of us could perceive the intense opposition against the treaties in the Senate. At no time was it certain that the treaties would be approved with or without amendments. It is evident that no one in Panama or the United States can predict that the next Senate will be better than the current one.

The Panamanian citizenry ratified the treaties on 23 October 1977 and it will again ratify them with the national jubilation that will reign when President Carter and General Torrijos sign in Panama the protocols of exchange of the ratification instruments.

We assume full responsibility for the acceptance of the treaties with the conviction, firmness and encouragement that patriotism and the dedication of the cause of Panama's liberation give us. Panama and the United States have wanted and sought a friendly and peaceful solution. This was achieved after 13 years of intense negotiations in which Panamanian nationalism witnessed the flowering of its best ideas. It is now up to all Panamanians, architects and beneficiaries of the treaties to enjoy these benefits in a climate of peace and national unity.

Panama, 25 April 1978, Foreign Ministry

GOVERNMENT TO CREATE CANAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

PA251553Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] A commission will be created to help the government in matters related to the Panama Canal. Televisora Nacional was informed that this commission will draft the basic documents to be presented to the national government on important matters.

The government office will be primarily responsible for matters related to the treaties and documents on support elements and will assist the government in implementing and executing the treaties.

Two of the commision members, Flavio Velasquez and Omar Jaen, said that in order to draft these basic documents two types of data will be used: data on activities, installations and use of lands and waters and all matters related to the Panama Canal, and all the data on regulations, laws and administrative procedures dealing with the execution of the treaties.

Vice President Gerardo Gonzalez will be the coordinator of this group which is preparing for the implementation of the canal treaties and is comprised of Foreign Affairs Minister Gonzalez-Revilla and Planning Minister Ardito Barletta as well as advisers Rodrigo Gonzalez and Roberto Heurtemate. Jaen and Velasquez said that one of the duties of this group is to set up a timetable for the various periods and phases which the Republic of Panama must follow to insure that the first day the treaty becomes effective Panama does receive all the benefits, lands, waters, installations and does actively participate in the management of these responsibilities for the administration and defense of the Panama Canal.

According to Messrs Jaen and Velasquez, the timetable is divided into three phases. The first is the preparatory phase encompassing the period before the treaties become effective during which the two countries will work together and prepare themselves organizationally to fulfill their responsibilities jointly.

The second phase is a period of transition, which will last approximately 30 months. This period begins after the treaties become effective. In this second period when the colonialist presence is to be dismantled, the two jurisdictions will exist concurrently in a spirit of cooperation.

Finally, the third phase will include the period during which Panama prepares to assume the administration and defense of the Panama Canal. This stage will last about 18 years, until the year 2000, when Panama takes control of the canal.

According to Mssrs Jaen and Velasquez, the first two phases will be devoted basically to the solution of immediate problems which is important because the country must be able to demonstrate that it can make adequate use of the assets being returned to the country for its development.

FORMER PRESIDENT ARIAS TO RETURN ON 10 MAY

PA251452Y Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 24 Apr 78 p 7A PA

[From "Glosas Vespertinas" column]

[Text] We have learned from reliable sources that former President Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid will return to the country on Wednesday, 10 May, from Costa Rica. He will arrive in David. Dr Arias Madrid will be a personal guest of Costa Rican President-elect Rodrigo Carazo Odio who will assume power on Monday, 8 May.

EXILES TO CONTINUE OPPOSITION TO TORRIJOS GOVERNMENT

PA252128Y Panama City Circuito RPC in Spanish 1720 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Excerpt] Spokesmen for the exiles who returned to the country yesterday have stated that many of them returned to the fatherland mainly to observe the present situation in the country and to see if guarantees do exist for their activities. The first group to arrive was a curious blend of leftists and rightists who did not conceal their intentions to continue expressing opposition to the Torrijos government whose actions they have criticized from abroad.

BRIEFS

AID TO CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY--Panama's National Mortgage Bank has announced new measures to accelerate the construction industry's upward trend. Franklyn Almillategui, the bank's general manager, disclosed that private banks have increased by 10 million balboas the funds available for the construction of houses, which originally totaled 20 million balboas. Other measures include the issuing of mortgage bonds, training of personnel abroad concerning mortgage operations and the affiliation of the National Mortgage Bank with the Inter-American Savings and Loan Bank headquartered in Venezuela, which provides financing for the construction industry. [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 6 Apr 78 pp 1A, 4A PA]

SUGAR QUOTA INCREASED--Panama's sugar quota has been increased by 50,000 tons in the international market, according to the International Sugar Organization in London. The increase of Panama's sugar export quota was the result of a series of efforts made in the past few months by representatives of private enterprise and state-owned sugarmills before that organization. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Apr 78 PA]

COSTA RICA

CARAZO STRONGLY CRITICIZES ODUBER GOVERNMENT

PA251502Y San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 1220 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] President-elect Rodrigo Carazo has made grave accusations against President Oduber's administration just 2 weeks prior to inauguration day. Speaking to the nation last night over a radio and television network, Carazo informed the people about the government's present condition. He accused the government of spending millions of colones in the past 4 years and of increasing the country's foreign debt.

According to Carazo, Oduber's administration did not make good use of the economic bonanza originated by the high prices of coffee or of the people's efforts and instead raised public expenditures. Carazo told the Costa Rican people that Oduber's administration is leaving a 232 million colones deficit. We thought things were a little out of balance, but it is worse than we thought, Carazo added.

The future president of the republic accused the government of making big mistakes in its foreign exchange policies. He mentioned the fact that the balance of payment is unfavorable to Costa Rica in the amount of $500 million.

Further on he added that now the thing to do is to try to put things in order, to work harder and establish an austerity plan. He said that severe sanctions will be imposed on those who do not live up to the promises made to the people during the electoral campaign.

Carazo said that in the past weeks he has had to stop some projects the government was carrying out because he did not approve of them and because they needed to be investigated. To this effect he mentioned the purchase of trolleys from the USSR for $5.8 million, the purchase of electric trains for the Atlantic railroad for $11.6 million and other examples.

Finally, he said that he will inventory the government in order to obtain an exact idea what the state has and also do the same thing at the end of his term.

Meanwhile, observers foresee a political clash between Oduber and Carazo as a result of the accusations made by the president-elect.

BRIEFS

NATIONAL SECURITY DIRECTOR--Rodolfo Echeverria Pacheco has been appointed new director of the National Security Department to replace Maj Rodrigo Chavez. In the future the National Security Department is going to be in charge of the country's security. [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 13 Apr 78 p 10A PA]

RECORD COFFEE INCOME--Coffee office director Alvaro Jimenez Castro has reported that the 1976-77 coffee crop yielded the highest income in the country's history, with sales of 67,197 tons and $294.155 million in income. [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 16 Apr 78 p 8A PA]

EL SALVADOR

FOREIGN MINISTER MARTINEZ SUBMITS RESIGNATION

PA252336Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Alvaro Ernesto Martinez has submitted his resignation. He told newsmen that he presented his irrevocable resignation to President Romero a few days ago. It will be effective on 1 May.

Questioned by newsmen on the reasons for his resignation, the foreign minister said he will occupy another post in public administration and that, when President Romero makes his appointment known in due time, it will be understood that the change was logical. Alvaro Ernesto Martinez has thus officially announced today his resignation as foreign minister.

LA PRENSA GRAFICA SCORES CRITICS OF HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

PA252247Y San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 19 Apr 78 p 35 PA

[Article by Jose L. Salcedo G.: "Agitation, Subversion, Insurrection"]

[Text] The communist drive to seize power violently is divided into three definite theoretical phases which may appear separately or concurrently in any given region of a country. They are agitation, subversion and insurrection. This revolutionary process does not necessarily have to follow a set sequence. In other words, one phase does not necessarily have to follow another. Instead, the emergence of a phase depends on the specific situation in a particular region or, in other words, the degree of revolutionary awareness of its permanent residents. Let me explain: The communist uprising of 1932 had the characteristics of an insurrection in the departments of Ahuachapan, Sonsonate and part of La Libertad, although agitation and subversion were detected in nearly all of the country's territory. By this example, I mean that, according to the criteria of the communist leaders, the objective and subjective conditions required for insurrection existed only in the aforementioned departments and not in the remaining ones, where revolutionary activities reached only the level of agitation and subversion.

Without a doubt, the country is undergoing the phase of agitation at the present time. Personally, I would say that it is also undergoing the phase of subversion, at least if we consider as acts to subvert public order--meaning the total juridical system existing today, from the political constitution down to the most insignificant administrative regulation--the murders, kidnapings, armed assaults, land takeovers, urban and rural arson, terrorist attempts, provocations against the authorities and so forth. I feel all the more justified in this view because many terrorist organizations which have committed these acts, which are nothing other than the armed vanguard of the Salvadoran Communist Party, have publicly claimed credit for them.

The permanent opponents and obdurate enemies of any government have--it's more than a habit--an obsession with blaming it for these outrages. I ask them: What interest could the government have in creating situations which obviously harm it both domestically and internationally? What would its purpose be in creating a complex revolutionary climate of agitation, subversion and insurrection affecting the peace and security of the citizens? There is only one answer to both questions: That would be absurd, completely absurd, a complete lack of political commonsense.

The regrettable events in certain rural areas of the departments of San Salvador, Cuscatlan, Cabanas and Chalatenango have had all the characteristics of a true insurrection. This was so especially in the city of San Pedro Perulapan (Cuscatlan) and the neighboring cantons, where illegal organizations such as the Salvadoran Christian Peasant Federation (FECCAS) and the Farm Workers Union (UTC), both of which are members of the also illegal and clandestine Popular Revolutionary Bloc (PPR), rose up en masse to commit all sorts of outrages against the safety and property of the peasants who refused to support their insurrectional plans.

This was why the armed forces, in compliance with the institutional mission assigned by the political constitution, were compelled to intervene to restore law and order and used the methods required to confront aggression by rebel groups.

Is it possible that the hypocritical and self-serving defenders of human rights who would condone the permanent aggression of international communism in our country have forgotten the military operation which suppressed the uprisings of violent Negro organizations in Los Angeles and the drastic action of the U.S. police when they invaded the campuses of several universities? The photographs published by the press give proof of those facts. This is why I refuse to believe that President Carter's memory is so short lived that he has forgotten events which we still remember here.

It is very meaningful that the San Pedro Perulapan events occurred precisely on the date when Presidents Carter and Perez met in Caracas. This was no coincidence and has only one political explanation: The events were intended to attract the attention of the two presidents to El Salvador so that they could again bring up the matter of human rights in our country. It is not just by chance that they have become officious defenders of these rights.

This makes us think that the peasant uprising in San Pedro Perulapan and its cantons was deliberately planned in order to provoke a military operation in this region and thereby present another pretext for foreign meddling in our domestic affairs. This unpatriotic purpose was later confirmed by the occupation of the Venezuelan, Costa Rican, Panamanian and Swiss embassies by persons claiming to belong to FECCAS and the UTC, naturally led by the BPR, to which both organizations belong. The occupations were intended to make these countries intervene in sovereign matters which concern only the Salvadoran Government. The list of petitions presented to the diplomatic representatives speaks for itself.

Finally, one must note the high degree of expertise in the provoking of conflicts that has been shown by these humble peasants (!) who invaded the embassies of precisely the three countries that could be standard bearers of human rights in Latin America and another which has a permanent seat in the international jurists commission dedicated to the investigation of human rights violations throughout the world. Such are the peasants (!) who Monsignor Romero and his progressive priests protect.

To be continued tomorrow.

HONDURAS

DIFFERENCES ON HONDURAN-SALVADORAN NEGOTIATING POINTS NOTED

PA252321Y Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1720 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Differences between Honduras and El Salvador exist on all the present negotiating points, mainly on border matters on which no changes have taken place, said Cesar Batres, chief of the negotiating commission, yesterday.

The Honduran negotiators met yesterday with Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez and members of the territorial studies and foreign policy commission after their recent talks in Miami with the Salvadoran delegation headed by Foreign Minister Alvaro Ernesto Martinez.

INTERPOL CHIEF ARRESTED FOR ACCUSING MILITARY

PA252154Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1609 GMT 25 Apr 78 PA

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 25 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Lt Juan Angel Barahona, chief of the International Police (Interpol) of Honduras, was arrested on Monday by order of the armed forces as a result of his charges that high-ranking officers are allegedly involved in drug trafficking. The police chief was arrested following a meeting with Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, acting chief of state and commander of the armed forces, who began an investigation into Barahona's explosive charges.

The police decided to speak out after a Colombian citizen charged that he had been illegally detained, tortured and forced to pay a bribe of almost $20,000. The charge was filed by Carlos Lorenzana, a Honduran lawyer, after he was given power of attorney to Pedro Rojas Martinez, who sent notarized statements from Bogota. Lorenzana is also the attorney of Ramon Matta Ballesteros (or Lopez), who has been identified by the military intelligence department and the chief of the Honduran Armed Forces as the head of the Mafia in this country.

Gen Paz Garcia (acting chief of state during the temporary absence of Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro) said a month ago, on accusing Matta, that Honduras is being used as a bridge to introduce some $300 million to $500 million in cocaine into the United States annually.

NICARAGUA

RADIO MUNDIAL ORDERED CLOSED FOR 3 MONTHS

PA250426Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2219 GMT 24 Apr 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 24 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan radio and television office today ordered the closing of Radio Mundial for 3 months. Guillermo Treminio, director of one of the station's newscasts, confirmed the report, indicating that an army officer arrived at the radio station's studios at noon to announce the closure.

The document given to the station states that Radio Mundial is being closed beginning today at 1438 (2038 GMT) for 3 months "for having violated Article 47 of the radio and television law." The sanction against the radio station also includes a fine of 5,000 cordobas ($714). The station was closed as a result of a trial against the newscast "El Momento" broadcast by Radio Mundial which reported on the army's action in the monimbo neighborhood in Masyaa in February.

Manuel Arana Valle, owner of the station, and Joaquin A. Pastora, director of the newscast, were summoned to the radio and television office this morning to be notified of the 3-month closure.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH FRG--Nicaragua and the FRG yesterday signed a financial cooperation agreement whereby the FRG's reconstruction bank will finance projects by small Nicaraguan private firms and cooperatives engaged in handicrafts production. [Managua NOVEDADES in Spanish 12 Apr 78 pp 3, 37 PA]

REPORTAGE ON ACTIVITIES OF MENGISTU, ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION

Foreign Minister Visits MINREX

FL251305Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Socialist Ethiopia's Foreign Minister Col Feleke Gedle-Giorgis was received today by interim Foreign Minister Rene Anillo at the Cuban Foreign Ministry--MINREX--headquarters. Feleke, who is in the delegation headed by Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, was accompanied by (Tesfaye Wekasha), chief of international organizations at the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry. Also participating at the fraternal meeting were the Cuban vice foreign ministers and other high officials. Aspects of the current international situation and other topics of mutual interest were discussed at the meeting.

Mengistu, Castro on Isle of Pines

FL251835Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia, has arrived in the Isle of Pines accompanied by our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Council of State. The two leaders were received by Arturo Lince, member of the PCC Central Committee and party first secretary in that special municipality. Mengistu and Fidel also were received by Roberto Ogando, president of the Municipal People's Government Assembly, and other municipal officials.

Yesterday, Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the PMAC of socialist Ethiopia, visited the 26 July School City and the historic Siboney farm in Santiago de Cuba accompanied by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Council of State. The visitors were received at the school by thousands of pioneers who gave them an impressive welcome. During his stay at the school's museum, Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam was extensively briefed by the pioneers and Fidel himself on the struggles of our people since the times of the [Spanish] conquest, in our independence wars, the period of the pseudorepublic and the salient aspects of the struggle against the Batista tyranny.

The Ethiopian people's leader, who was presented a gift as a memento of his visit to the historic place, then signed the guest book. The struggle of these people, Mengistu wrote, is our struggle and their happiness is also our happiness.

At the historic Siboney farm, Mengistu told the press that ever since the Ethiopian revolution was initiated the Cubans have demonstrated their solidarity, not only with this type of welcome, and they have also given us the blood of their sons.

Mengistu Speaks to Reporters

FL251247Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Mengistu, Fidel and the other members of the delegation have gone to the Siboney farm. Along the route there was a constant demonstration of popular warmth toward the two leaders. Following his visit to the farm's museum, where Fidel and the rest of the Moncada combatants left to attack that Batista fort, Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam briefly talked to reporters.

(Carlos Ravia Marvero) from the provincial radio station CMKC-Radio Revolucion took down the Ethiopian leader's comments: [begin recording]

(Ravia Marvero) from Santiago de Cuba reporting for this national radio show: Since the beginning of the Ethiopian revolution the Cubans have given us the blood of their sons, stated Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam at the end of his visit to the historic Siboney farm, located 14 km to the east of Santiago de Cuba. Commenting on the treatment received today from the Santiago populace, the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of socialist Ethiopia's Council of Ministers stated: We were confident that we would have a reception just like the one we have seen--revolutionary--and what we have seen is what we expected.

Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam told the reporters: From my point of view, the Cuban revolution, by its long-term struggle, opened a landmark in the history of the people. The top leader of the Ethiopian people also stated: I have focused my attention on this opportunity to see first hand, along with my comrades, the fruit of the revolution, what it has done and what has been accomplished. In reference to the revolutionary process in his country, Mengistu Haile Mariam stated that all Ethiopian revolutionaries are intensively working to advance their people, who were so oppressed before. The top leader of the brave African people told reporters to remember that what has been dore in Cuba is now being done in Ethiopia.

Following this, Mengistu Haile Mariam wrote in the guest book: The Cuban people's struggle is the Ethiopian people's struggle, and their happiness is also Ethiopia's happiness. [end recording]

The 5-hour visit to Santiago de Cuba today rounded out the fourth day of the official friendship visit to our country by the delegation of the PMAC and socialist Ethiopia's Council of Ministers, which is here at the invitation of our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

Leaders' Remarks to Angolan Students

FL260039Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Apr 78 FL

[Excerpt] Ethiopian revolution chief Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, accompanied by our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, today toured the Isle of Pines Special Municipality on the fifth day of his official and friendly visit to our country. Our reporter reports from Radio Caribe in Nueva Gerona, Isle of Pines:

[begin recording] The people of the Isle of Pines this morning gave a warm welcome to Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia, who made a 4-hour visit to the Isle of Pines in the company of our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. The residents of Nueva Gerona gathered on both sides of the principal routes and waved Cuban and Ethiopian flags as a sign of affection and friendship toward their African brothers.

An open jeep driven by Fidel himself, with Mengistu and Arturo Lince Gonzalez, PCC first secretary of the Isle of Pines Special Municipality, aboard, led the motorcade which began the tour of principal Isle of Pines development projects. The top Cuban and Ethiopian leaders visited rural basic secondary school No 43, which was completed recently by youth labor army members for use by Ethiopian students.

Hundreds of students and workers gathered on both sides of the road used by the motorcade for the tour raised their hats and work tools as a greeting to the visitors which later arrived in the Agostinho Neto rural basic secondary school where the students gave them a warm welcome of solidarity. At the conclusion of their visit to this school, Fidel and Mengistu addressed the students who had gathered at the school's main square.

Speaking briefly, the Ethiopian leader told the students: This welcome has made me very happy. He also emphasized that he was able to observe all of Cuba's help to bring them and teach them here and to see the results. Mengistu announced that Ethiopian students will arrive in the Isle of Pines in a few months and they will have the same opportunities.

For his part, our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro said:

[begin Castro recording] Dear friends, the entire island and all the students have given Comrade Mengistu and the Ethiopian delegation a great welcome. That is why I am going to say a few words to tell you that we have felt great emotion at this meeting with you this morning. You have made us remember Angola and made us remember [words indistinct]. It seems to us that this is a worthy example of what feelings of friendship and solidarity between peoples can do. It is an example of what internationalism can do.

A few moments ago we asked an Angolan youth what he is going to study and what his objectives are. He gave us a beautiful reply. He said that he wanted to study in order to help the oppressed peoples of the world. It is true, there is still much oppression in the world. There is still much to struggle for in the world, and we will have to make big efforts so that all peoples will have the right to liberty, justice and brotherhood. [end recording]

Further on Castro Speech

FL260142Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Apr 78 FL

[Excerpt of remarks by Fidel Castro at Agostinho Neto school, Isle of Pines, on 26 April 1978--recorded]

[Excerpt] [begin Castro recording] As Comrade Mengistu has announced, 1,000 Ethiopian youths in a few weeks will join two schools similar to this in this isle of youths. Therefore, you will also be able to develop the ties of friendship and brotherhood with the youths of revolutionary Ethiopia. We are very happy with the news we have that the schools are doing well, that you are studying diligently, that you are very good workers and that you are well-disciplined youths. [applause]

We hope that thousands of Angolan youths can attend these schools. Next year Angola will have two more schools on the Isle of Pines, and Mozambique will have two more schools on the Isle of Pines. [applause] For all of this, we feel very happy.

Let us repeat, as you were saying: Long live the friendship among Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Cuba.

[indistinct response, applause] Long live proletarian internationalism! [shouts of "Viva," applause] The struggle continues! [indistinct chanting] Fatherland or death! [shouts of "Venceremos"--end recording]

Public Rally Planned

FL252330Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2302 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Excerpts] The State Committee for Labor and Social Security has issued resolution No 125 regulating work activities tomorrow, Wednesday, on the occasion of the public rally to be held at Revolution Plaza in solidarity with Ethiopia. A public rally will be held at Revolution Plaza tomorrow at 1600 to pay tribute to Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia, and the high-level delegation accompanying him. The state committee resolution emphasizes that it is appropriate to regulate work activities tomorrow so that the desire of the workers of Havana to massively attend the rally is satisfied and they can once again express their affection, admiration and respect for the worthy representatives of the fraternal Ethiopian people.

In resolution No 125, the State Committee for Labor and Social Security exempts from this mobilization workers involved in the sugar harvest, other urgent agricultural tasks, industries of continuous production processes, and urgent port loading and unloading work. Also exempted are those working in pharmacies, gasoline stations, funeral homes and flower gardens associated with these, cemeteries, hotels, other lodgings and communications. Radio and television stations, recreational centers, tourist attractions and basic public services will not recess operations, the resolution stresses.

MALMIERCA RETURNS TO CUBA FROM USSR

FL251314Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca, foreign minister and PCC Central Committee member, has returned to our country following several days in the USSR at the invitation of the USSR Government. In the USSR the Cuban foreign minister was received by CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, met with USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and visited the cities of Volgograd and Kiev.

HAVANA REPORTS STANSFIELD TURNER'S COMMENTS ON USE OF PRESS

FL251406Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Adm Stansfield Turner, director of the U.S. CIA, has told the House of Representatives intelligence services committee that the CIA leadership is trying to preserve its right to use North American and foreign reporters for espionage purposes. It has been recently learned that more than 400 North American reporters have carried out secret missions for the CIA over the past 25 years. Known correspondents and political commentators from newspapers, magazines, television companies and North American press agencies have been among the agents. More than 800 U.S. press organizations were brought into this activity, along with radio and television stations. The duties performed by the reporters who had relations with the CIA included the gathering of strategic information, liaison with spies and dissemination of false information.

Following a noisy scandal resulting from these revelations, the CIA was obliged formally to prohibit the employment of reporters in espionage operations. But this prohibition was used soley to calm North American public opinion.

Stansfield Turner told the House committee that it is essentially a change in tactics and not a renunciation of collaboration with the massive North American media. According to him, the CIA considers it absolutely necessary to allow reporters the possibility of voluntarily rendering patriotic service, which is to be translated as devoting themselves to gathering information for the U.S. espionage services--which in practice has shown itself to be a service that is not very patriotic.

HUNGARIAN EDUCATION OFFICIAL MEETS WITH MINISTER

FL251502Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, education minister and PCC Central Committee member, has received Mihaly Kornidesz, chief of the Scientific, Public Education and Cultural Affairs Department of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee, in his office. The head of the Education Ministry--MINED--briefed the visitor and the delegation he heads on Cuba's educational situation prior to 1959 and the advances achieved in this area since the triumph of the revolution.

Mihaly Kornidesz also visited Jose Felipe Carneado, PCC Central Committee member and chief of its Department of Science, Culture and Teaching Centers. They discussed party matters and exchanged experiences on the work carried out by the departments they head.

ALMEIDA MEETS SAM NUJOMA, YUGOSLAV FOREIGN SECRETARY

FL252306Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] United Nations--Cuban Council of State Vice President Juan Almeida Bosque has met Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West Africa People's Organization--SWAPO. The chairman of the Cuban delegation to the ninth UN extraordinary General Assembly and the chief of the Namibian liberation movement discussed the current situation in that territory of southern Africa illegally occupied by the racist regime of South Africa. Almeida reaffirmed to Nujoma the Cuban people's solidarity with SWAPO, the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people in their struggle for national liberation and independence and against the racist regime of apartheid. They also examined problems concerning the special General Assembly which currently is examining the situation in Namibia.

The Cuban leader also met with Milos Minic, Yugoslav Federal Executive Council vice president and foreign secretary, who heads his country's delegation to the General Assembly. The meeting with the Yugoslav foreign secretary, held in a cordial atmosphere, reviewed matters of interest to the two countries.

ARMANDO HART VISITS VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN PINAR DEL RIO

FL251844Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Excerpt] Armando Hart Davalos, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of culture, has presided over an artistic-cultural function at the Friedrich Engels Vocational School in Pinar del Rio. The event also was attended by Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the PCC Central Committee and party first secretary in Pinar del Rio, Culture Ministry officials, and the directors of the cultural and arts sectors in the country's provinces.

Following a tour of the Friedrich Engels Vocational School, Armando Hart wrote in the guest book: Upon visiting this school, witnessing the artistic activity and observing the enthusiasm of its students, when I think of what is the most beautiful, I think of communism.

GUYANA

ARRIVAL OF USSR BAUXITE SURVEY TEAM REPORTED

FL251630Y Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Apr 78 FL

[Text] A seven-man team from the Soviet Union is now in Guyana to carry out feasibility studies in the possible development of bauxite and alumina. The Soviet team arrived only days after the country's Prime Minister Forbes Burnham left the Soviet Union after an official 5-day visit. However, there is no indication as to whether the mission was a direct result of the visit. The team will be holding talks with senior government ministers and officials in the bauxite industry.

GUYANESE-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE REPORTED IN PRAVDA

For the 23 April PRAVDA report of the apparent text of the Soviet-Guyanese joint communique on the visit to the Soviet Union by Prime Minister Forbes Burnham and his talks with L.I. Brezhnev and A.N. Kosygin, see the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 25 Apr Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

SURINAM

FOUR GUYANESE FISHERMEN RELEASED BY POLICE

FL241837Y Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 14 Apr 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Four of the Corentyne fishermen who were arrested by Surinam police 23 days ago for allegedly fishing off the No 43 village foreshore were released by police in the neighbouring territory on Wednesday afternoon and arrived in Guyana yesterday by a launch from Nickerie.

The four men are Motilall, Ramesh, Baccha and Harry, all of No 67 village.

Speaking with the CHRONICLE, Baccha, the captain of the vessel, said when it was seized with its catch and tacklings they were treated very badly by the Surinam police.

He alleged that they were tied with a rope around their necks and led to prison like animals.

He alleged also that the conditions under which they were kept in Surinam prison were horrible and they were released only after they had convinced the police there they were not fishing in Surinam waters.

The other four men, Mukesh Joseph, George Joseph, Premo and Miko of Whim village are expected to appear in court in Surinam today.

Relatives of these men are in that country in connection with the retaining of lawyers for the men.

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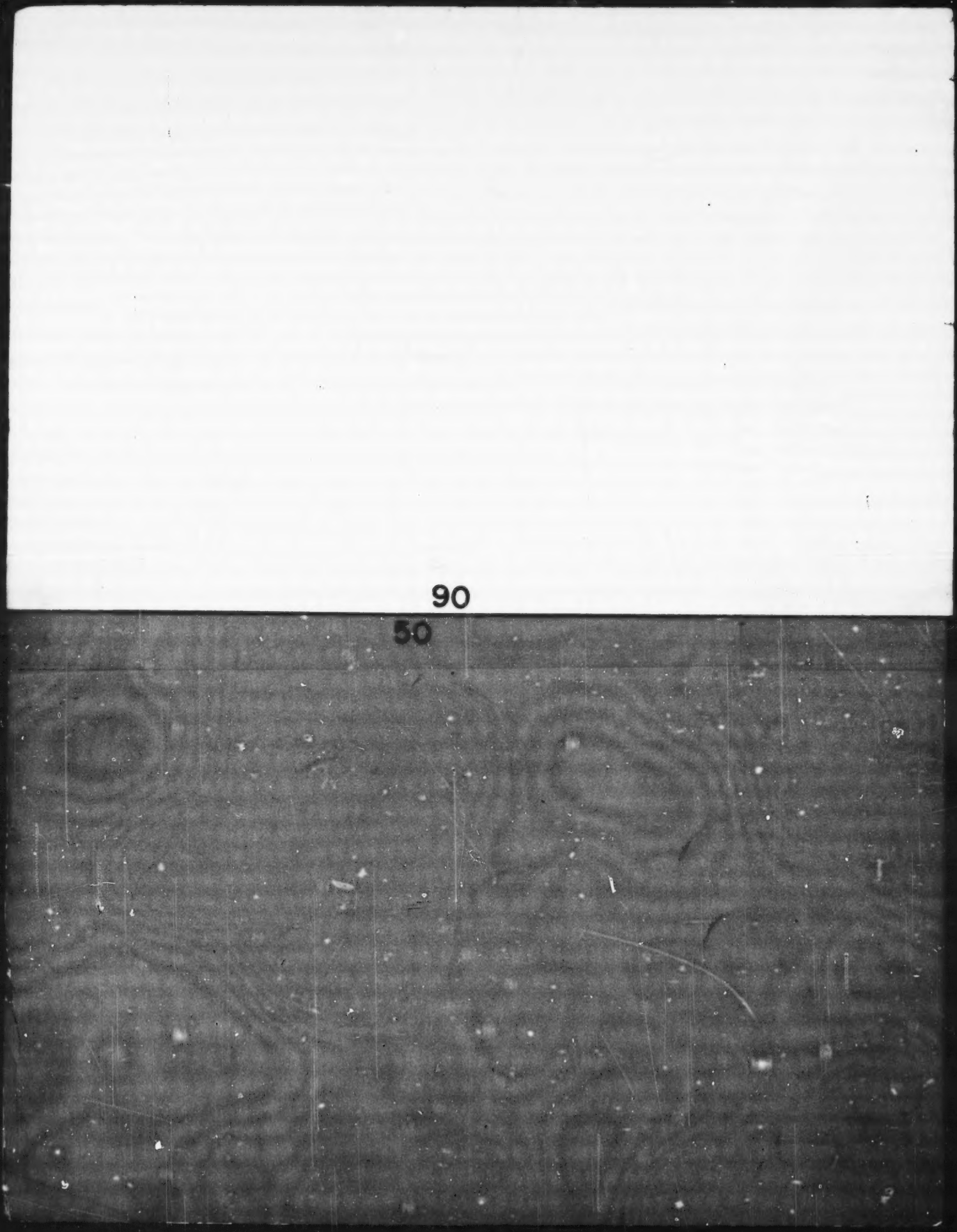
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